

## 2 - PHYSICIAN/SUPPLIER DATA

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### Introduction to the Physician/Supplier Data Subsystem

The major Physician/Supplier Data subsystem of BESS enables you to view utilization profiles for a full calendar year of data summarized from the 100% National Claims History (NCH) data for all beneficiaries. You can browse data, print reports, and create data or report files for subsequent downloading.

The Physician/Supplier Data subsystem is comprised of four primary subsystems:

- ! Descriptive Statistics,
- ! User Extract,
- ! Procedure Summary, and
- ! Physician Fee Schedule.

**These systems contain summary data. No beneficiary or provider specific data are available through the BESS system.**

*Descriptive Statistics* is a package of HCFA's most requested utilization data in report or file format and includes the following information:

- ! Profiles of expenditures by type of service;
- ! Place of service and specialty;
- ! Top 200 and 500 procedures by services and charges; and
- ! Procedure code summaries by locality, type of service, place of service, and specialty.

*Descriptive Statistics* provides frozen views of the data that can provide national and carrier figures at a glance.

*User Extract (UE)* is a data extraction and reporting system that can be tailored to your needs when those needs exceed the capabilities of the *Descriptive Statistics* subsystem. UE provides you with an array of subject files:

- ! Radiology,

- ! Service Assignment,
- ! Specialty Summary,
- ! Anesthesia,
- ! Carrier and National Procedure Summaries,
- ! Procedure/Modifier,
- ! Laboratory,
- ! Durable Medical Equipment (DME),
- ! Carrier/Locality Summary,
- ! Local Procedures,
- ! Ambulatory Surgical Center (ASC) Procedures, and

These files are summarized at different levels and provide a broad spectrum for analysis. You have the option of creating your own "special interest file" if none of the existing files satisfy your data requirements. UE allows you to enter parameters, which enables the system to create a special interest file. Once the system creates the file, you may browse the data or generate additional reports or files by using your file with the UE subsystem software. While the UE subsystem does provide data in calendar year summaries, eight of the files contain multiple years of data for trending purposes. The three calendar years of complete data are combined in one file, wherever the volume of data permits, to simplify the process of creating multi-year reports. (Multi-year files are shown as options 3, 4, 5, 7, 7a, 8, 9, 10, and 12 at the UE File Selection Menu Screen.)

***Procedure Summary*** enables you to extract data directly from the Physician Supplier Procedure Summary (PSPS) Master File, which is the source of all data that supports BESS. This file contains summarized utilization data for 100% of the Physician/ Supplier claims processed by Part B carriers and includes the following items:

- ! Physician services
- ! Laboratory services
- ! Durable Medical Equipment (DME)
- ! Ambulance
- ! Prosthetics and orthotics
- ! Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition (PEN)
- ! Facility charges for free-standing Ambulatory Surgical Centers (ASC)
- ! Outpatient speech, occupational, and physical therapy
- ! Immunosuppressive drugs
- ! Pneumococcal, Hepatitis B, and influenza vaccines
- ! Monthly End Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) capitation payments

Excluded items include **HMO reporting** and **outpatient hospital facility charges**.

The PSPS data are summarized by the following data elements:

- ! Procedure Code (HCPCS),
- ! Initial Modifier,
- ! Specialty,
- ! Carrier,
- ! Pricing Locality,
- ! Type of Service,
- ! Place of Service, and
- ! Secondary Modifier.

At this level of summary, one and a half billion line items have been consolidated into a file of approximately 14 million records. All of these data are available to you when you enter selection parameters that provide a more detailed view of utilization patterns than those available through the *Descriptive Statistics* or *User Extract* subsystems.

***Physician Fee Schedule*** provides you with a source of pricing information. With the implementation of the Medicare Physician Fee schedule in 1992, all physician services are priced using Relative Value Units (RVUs) and are no longer priced under the reasonable charge methodology. This system displays pricing amounts for those services priced under the Medicare *Physician Fee Schedule*, commonly referred to as the MFSDB. You may obtain locality-specific payment amounts for any two consecutive years for a particular procedure for a carrier or region. Though the data differ from the utilization figures throughout the other subsystems, the *Physician Fee Schedule* is based on the utilization patterns of the PSPS file.

In all of the Physician/Supplier Data subsystems, BESS provides you with three **complete** years of data plus the current year to date. Data updates to BESS follow incurred year/quarterly data cycles, i.e., the *incurred* year is the year that service was rendered to the beneficiary; the *quarterly* data cycle update process occurs outside BESS in the PSPS file. Using an 18-month window, BESS defines six quarter-by-quarter timeframes.

The list below specifies how the 18-month processing window breaks down by quarter for the services incurred in 1998:

- ! First quarter runs from January 1, 1998 through March 31, 1998;

- ! Second quarter runs from April 1, 1998 through June 30, 1998;
- ! Third quarter runs from July 1, 1998 through September 30, 1998;
- ! Fourth quarter runs from October 1, 1998 through December 31, 1998.
- ! Fifth quarter runs from January 1, **1999** through March 31, **1999**; and
- ! Sixth quarter runs from April 1, **1999** through June 30, **1999**.

The chart below shows the percent of completeness for the **full** year of 1998 data.

**Percent of Data Completeness Based on Six Quarters for 1998**

First Quarter (January 1 - March 31, 1998)	<b>13%</b>	Fourth Quarter (October 1 - December 31, 1998)	<b>89%</b>
Second Quarter (April 1 - June 30, 1998)	<b>24%</b>	Fifth Quarter (January 1 - March 31, 1999)	<b>95%</b>
Third Quarter (July 1 - September 30, 1998)	<b>63%</b>	Sixth Quarter (April 1 - June 30, 1999)	<b>98%</b>

The chart shows that 1998 data were considered **98%** complete on June 30, **1999**. On July 1, 1999, **all** 1998 data were frozen and **no** additional updates were allowed.

### **Selecting Data for a Specific Processing Year**

BESS enables you to select data from the PSPS for a specific processing year. You can view data on the screen or you can send it to be printed or downloaded. The display below provides an example with detailed explanations of the yearly information you can access in BESS.

[Name of the File]	
1 - 1996 [Name of the File]	(The <u>complete</u> aggregation of data for 1996; the 1996 file is <b>98%</b> complete through June 30, 1997)
2 - 1997 [Name of the File]	(The <u>complete</u> aggregation of data for 1997; the 1997 file is <b>98%</b> complete through June 30, 1998)
3 - 1998 [Name of the File]	(The <u>complete</u> aggregation of data for 1998, the 1998 file is <b>98%</b> complete through June 30, 1999)
4 - 1999 [Name of the File]	(Data through June 30, 1999 - the <b>second</b> quarter; 1999 data is <b>24%</b> complete through June 30, 1999)

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OPTION ==> -----B E S S-----

                *****
                * PHYSICIAN/SUPPLIER DATA *
                * PRIMARY OPTION MENU      *
                *****

                ENABLES YOU TO ACCESS 4 PRIMARY SUBSYSTEMS

1 User Extract          - Retrieval of user-defined Part B data
2 Physician Fee Schedule - Access to MFSDDB Payment Amounts
3 Procedure Summary     - Access to master file
4 Descriptive Statistics - Data book of statistics
5 Organizational Accesses - Special Approval Required
T Tutorial              - Under Development
X Exit                  - End

F1 : Help              F3 : Exit

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### Using the Physician/Supplier Data Primary Option Menu Screen

**OPTION ==>** Specifies the secondary subsystem or option you want to access. The **BESS User's Guide** procedural information begins with the primary *Physician/Supplier Data* subsystem, which consists of four secondary subsystems.

Type **1**

Press **Enter**

and the system displays the *Physician/Supplier Data Primary Option Menu Screen* with the cursor positioned at the **OPTION** ==> prompt.

If you want to access one of the other primary subsystems,

Type **2, 3, 4, or 5.**

Press **Enter**